

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BUENOS 06788 311556Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

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FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7246

S E C R E T BUENOS AIRES 6788

NODIS

FOR SECRETARY VANCE FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652 XGDS-1

TAGS OVIP

SUBJECT REQUEST BY PRESIDENT VIDELA TO CONFER WITH VICE PRESIDENT  
MONDALE IN ROME

REF: STATE 217223

1. AT ABOUT 9:30 HOURS I RECEIVED A PHONE CALL FROM  
GENERAL VIOLA INFORMING ME HE WAS SENDING HIS PERSONAL  
EMISSARY TO CONFER WITH ME AT EMBASSY. HE MADE IT CLEAR  
SUBJECT COULD NOT BE DISCUSSED BY PHONE.

2. ABOUT FORTY-FIVE MINUTES LATER A LT. COLONEL RAMIREZ  
APPEARED ON THE HORIZON. AFTER PROPER IDENTIFICATION, HE  
STATED PRESIDENT VIDELA WAS REQUESTING AN AUDIENCE WITH  
VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE IN ROME. EMISSARY STATED VIDELA  
HAD LEARNED VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE WAS LEADING USG  
DELEGATION TO POPE'S SWEARING-IN-CEREMONY. EMISSARY  
STATED BOTH VIDELA AND VIOLA WANTED ME TO KNOW IT WAS  
THEIR FEELING THIS WOULD BE IDEAL SITUATION FOR A VIDELA-  
MONDALE CHAT.

3. I ADVISED LT. COL. RAMIREZ OF MY LACK OF INFORMATION

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ON US DELEGATION TO ROME, BUT WOULD TRANSMIT PRESIDENT  
VIDELA'S REQUEST IMMEDIATELY. COL. RAMIREZ ADDED  
PRESIDENT VIDELA WANTED A RESPONSE BEFORE HIS  
DEPARTURE. EMISSARY INQUIRED IF I COULD HAVE A REPLY  
BY 16:00 HOURS TODAY (THURSDAY AUGUST 31). I GAVE HIM  
NO ASSURANCE. HE SAID VIDELA WOULD PROBABLY DEPART  
FOR ROME EARLY TOMORROW (FRIDAY - SEPTEMBER 1).

4. I REQUESTED LT. COL. RAMIREZ TO INFORM BOTH VIDELA AND VIOLA OF MY PENDING WASHDC CONSULTATION TRIP ON SEPTEMBER 11. I SUGGESTED THAT BOTH VIOLA AND VIDELA BE INFORMED OF POSSIBILITY OF SENDING ONE OF THEIR CLOSE CONFIDANTS TO DEPARTMENT DURING MY CONSULTATION PERIOD. I DID NOT DISCUSS PROPOSED ASST. SECY VAKY VISIT AS IT WAS EVIDENT LT. COL. RAMIREZ WAS NOT FAMILIAR WITH SUBJECT.

5. IT WAS AGREED GENERAL VIOLA WOULD CONTACT ME SOON ON MY PROPOSAL.

6. COMMENT: DURING THE PAST WEEK GENERAL VIOLA HAS BECOME ALMOST INACCESSIBLE DUE TO HEAVY WORK SCHEDULE. IN HIS DUAL ROLE OF MEMBER OF THE JUNTA AND COMANDER OF ARMY, HE NOW FINDS HIMSELF FULLY OCCUPIED IN JUNTA MEETINGS AND PRESIDING OVER ALL KINDS OF MILITARY MEETINGS. HIS CONTACT WITH ME AS OF LATE HAS BEEN BY PHONE. I HAVE NOT YET RECEIVED AN ANSWER TO THE PROPOSED VAKY VISIT. I MUST ASSUME THE PROPOSED VIDELA-MONDALE MEETING WOULD BE IN LIEU OF THE VAKY VISIT. END COMMENT

7. PLEASE ADVISE IF POSSIBLE BEFORE COB IF VIDELA-MONDALE MEETING IN ROME CAN BE ARRANGED. I STRONGLY RECOMMEND HONORING VIDELA'S REQUEST IF AT ALL POSSIBLE. THIS WOULD CERTAINLY FULFILL OUR IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES.  
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CASTRO

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
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